

JPRS 77106

6 January 1981

Worldwide Report

TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY,
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

No. 144

FBIS

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REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE		1. REPORT NO. JPRS 77106	2.	3. Recipient's Accession No.
4. Title and Subtitle WORLDWIDE REPORT: TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, No. 144			5. Report Date 6 January 1981	
7. Author(s)			6. Performing Organization Rept. No.	
9. Performing Organization Name and Address Joint Publications Research Service 1000 North Glebe Road Arlington, Virginia 22201			10. Project/Task/Work Unit No.	
			11. Contract(G) or Grant(G) No. (C) (G)	
12. Sponsoring Organization Name and Address As above			13. Type of Report & Period Covered	
			14.	
15. Supplementary Notes				
16. Abstract (Limit: 200 words) This serial report contains information from the world press and radio relating to worldwide political, economic and technical developments in telecommunications, computers, and satellite communications. Coverage will be worldwide with focus on France, Federal Republic of Germany, United Kingdom, Italy, Japan, the USSR, People's Republic of China, Sweden, and the Netherlands.				
17. Document Analysis a. Descriptors Worldwide Computers Satellite Communications Electronics and Electrical Engineering Telecommunications Telemetry				
b. Identifiers/Open-Ended Terms				
c. COSATI Field/Group 09B, C, F, 17B, 22B				
18. Availability Statement Unlimited Availability Sold by NTIS Springfield, Virginia 22161			19. Security Class (This Report) UNCLASSIFIED	21. No. of Pages 34
			20. Security Class (This Page) UNCLASSIFIED	22. Price

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WORLDWIDE REPORT
TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

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BRIEFS

LAOS, USSR RADIO AGREEMENT--Vientiane, 18 Dec (KPL)--An agreement on the building of a 150-kilowatt radio broadcasting station for the LPDR was signed in the afternoon of December 17 by the representatives of the Ministry of Propaganda, Information, Culture and Tourism and the Soviet Import-Export Touncous Company [as received]. Signing for the Lao side was Chaleun Vongsam-ang, director general of the Lao National Radio, and for the Soviet side was Sevane, economic counsellor of the Soviet Embassy to Laos. Among those present were Son Khamvanvongsa, deputy minister of propaganda, information, culture and tourism, cadres of the Lao National Radio and staff members of the Soviet Embassy. [Text] [BK181440 Vientiane KPL in English 1058 GMT 18 Dec 80]

'WAPA', 'NOVOSTI' COOPERATION PACT--Beirut, 21 Dec (AFP)--The Palestinian News Agency WAPA and the Soviet News Agency NOVOSTI have signed a cooperation agreement intended to "serve peace and friendship between the peoples," WAPA reported here. The aim was to develop existing cooperation between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Soviet Union, WAPA said. [Text] [NC210836 Paris AFP in English 0829 GMT 21 Dec 80]

DPRK, LIBYAN NEWS AGENCIES AGREEMENT--Pyongyang, 19 Dec (KCNA)--An agreement on the exchange of news and cooperation between the KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY and the LIBYAN NEWS AGENCY was signed in Tripoli, Libya, on December 14, according to a report. It was signed on our side by the DPRK Ambassador to Libya and on the opposite side by the general director of the LIBYAN NEWS AGENCY. [Text] [SK190526 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0329 GMT 19 Dec 80]

USSR, SRV TV, RADIO COOPERATION--A ceremony was held on 8 December in Moscow for signing a document on cooperation in television and radio broadcasting between the Soviet State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting and the SRV Council of Ministers' Radio and Television Commission for the 1981-1982 period. Particular attention will be given to reporting on the forthcoming 26th CPSU Congress. It is planned that the exchange of television and radio materials will continue to be developed. These materials are to reflect the two countries' achievement in communist and socialist construction and the unshakable friendship and cooperation between the USSR and Vietnam (?such as) in the use of space communications means. Comrade Lapin, chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, and Comrade Tran Lam, chairman of the Vietnam Radio and Television Commission, signed the aforementioned document. [Text] [OW101655 Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1430 GMT 8 Dec 80]

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

'ANTARA'-'PTI' SATELLITE LINK--New Delhi, 27 Nov (AFP)--The Indian News Agency PTI and the Indonesian News Agency ANTARA have begun exchanging news on a direct 24-hour satellite circuit, PTI announced today. The link is the first of its kind established between India and Southeast Asia, the agency said. It added that the link was part of PTI's programme of expansion of its foreign service as well as the non-aligned news pool operations. PTI recently signed a contract with the New China News Agency, XINHUA, in Beijing for exchange of the news services. [Text] [BK271340 Hong Kong AFP in English 1302 GMT 27 Nov 80]

DPRK, INDIAN NEW AGENCIES PACT--Pyongyang, 19 Dec (KCNA)--An agreement on the exchange of news and cooperation between the KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY and the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA was signed on December 16 in New Delhi, according to a report. It was signed on our side by Kim Song-kol, general director of the KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY, and on the opposite side by N.R. Chandran, general director of the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA. [Text][SK190527 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0331 GMT 19 Dec 80]

CSO: 5500

FIRST OF PLANNED SATELLITE EARTH STATIONS OPENS

New Dimension in Communications

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 15 Nov 80 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, November 14:

India's communications network acquires a new dimension with the formal commissioning by the Prime Minister tomorrow of the first of earth stations linked with a geostationary satellite for domestic circuits.

An 11-metre-diameter antenna, directed towards the satellite placed at a distance of 35,000-km. in space, and a 40-metre high microwave tower form the core of equipment at the earth station at Sikandarabad, near Bulandshahr, Uttar Pradesh.

The breakthrough in communications these signify is heightened by the fact that such remote and inaccessible places like Kavaratti in the Lakshadweep Islands, Leh in Ladakh, Aizawl in Mizoram and Port Blair in the Andamans can now be contacted in a matter of minutes by telephone.

The earth stations will transmit and receive messages via the satellite, Intelsat IV, hired from the U.S. for the purpose for five years. Hopefully, before the end of the period India will place its own satellite, INSAT in orbit for communications at home and abroad.

In fact, the commissioning of the earth stations at Sikandarabad and another near Madras marks a big leap forward in the direction of the proposed establishment of 28 earth stations within three years and in time for the launching of INSAT.

These 28 stations, classified according to size as main, primary and remote, are:

Main--Delhi (Sikandarabad), Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Shillong.

Primary--Ahmedabad, Bhubaneshwar, Ernakulam, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jullundur, Lucknow and Patna.

Remote--Agartala, Aizawl, Bhub, Car Nicobar, Gangtok, Imphal, Itanagar, Jodhpur, Kavaratti, Kohima, Leh, Minicoy, Panjim, Port Blair and Srinagar.

Mobile Stations

In addition one earth station that can be transported by road and two that can be carried by air will be readied for use in emergencies like floods and other natural calamities.

While the launching of INSAT is handled by the department of space, the P and T department takes care of earth stations. These stations are so located away from metropolitan towns to avoid possible interference from terrestrial microwave links.

The circuits derived via the satellite are extended to nearby metropolitan towns by microwave links or coaxial cables for integration with the national telecommunication network.

Further Details Given

Madras THE HINDU in English 15 Nov 80 p 7

[Text] New Delhi, Nov. 14.

India enters the era of domestic satellite communication tomorrow with the inauguration of the earth station at Sikandrabad near Bulandshahr in Uttar Pradesh (see picture) by the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi.

With the inauguration, earth stations located at Port Blair, Car Nicobar, Kavaratti, Aizwal and Leh will become operational linking these remote areas with the country's telecommunication network via Intelsat.

The link is provided through the earth station at Sikandrabad and the one at Chingleput which are connected to the Delhi and Madras telephone exchange by microwave.

To be utilised initially for telephone and meteorological data communication, the satellite link will provide a channel for relaying television programmes after India's own satellites (INSAT) are placed in orbit in April 1982 and 1983. [as published]

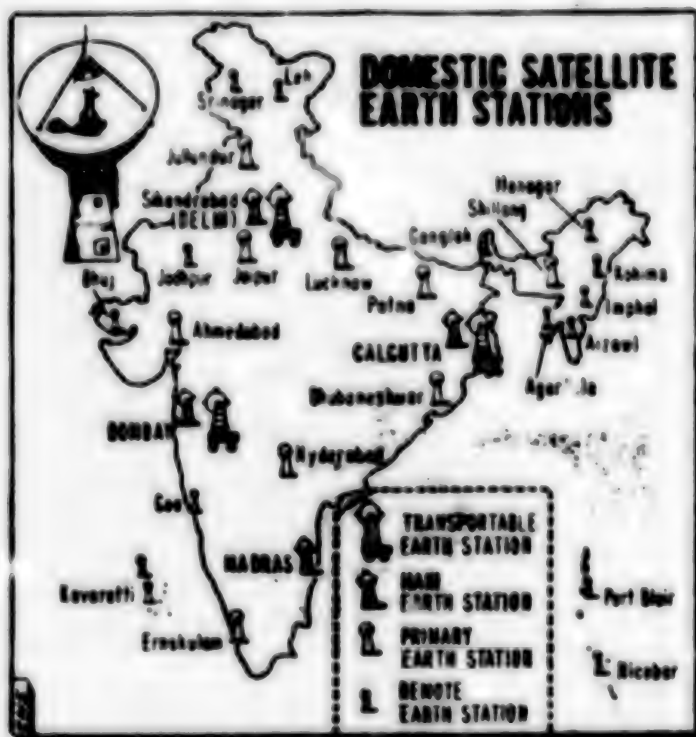
In all, there will be 28 earth stations and three mobile stations by the time INSAT is launched, the Communication Secretary, Mr. S. K. Ghosh, told newsmen during a visit to Sikandrabad yesterday.

The domestic satellite telecommunication network involves taking on lease of a quarter transponder from Intelsat operated by the International Telecommunication Organisation. The charges for hiring the quarter transponder comes to Rs. 20 lakhs per annum. The cost of the entire project is estimated at Rs. 5.42 crores.

Mr. M. L. Rawal, Deputy Director General of Satellite Project explained that the earth stations were generally located away from metropolitan towns to avoid possible interference from the microwave links already working in those cities. Besides the Delhi stations located at Sikandrabad and the Madras section at Chingleput, Bombay, Calcutta and Shillong will also be linked to the satellite through three

other stations which will be the main gateway to gain access to the national telecommunication network.

Eight other cities--Ahmedabad, Bhubaneswar, Ernakulam, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jullundur, Lucknow and Patna--will have what are called primary earth stations. Remote stations will be established at Agartala, Bhuj, Gangtok, Imphal, Itanagar, Jodhpur, Kohima, Minicoy, Panaji and Srinagar in addition to the five which become operational tomorrow.--PTI.



CSO: 5500

INDIGENOUS MANUFACTURE OF CROSSBAR EQUIPMENT PLANNED

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 15 Nov 80 pp 1, 9

[Text] INDIA will manufacture the indigenously designed cross-bar telephone switching equipment at the two-lakh line capacity factory at Rae Bareilly, instead of going in for foreign systems, Communications Minister C M Stephen announced on Friday.

The production know-how and machinery for manufacturing the cross-bar exchanges is being provided by the Bell Telephone Company of Belgium, who are the collaborators of the Indian Telephone Industries (ITI).

The total investment in the plant will be of the order of Rs 65 crores, of which Rs 28 crores will be in foreign exchange, the Minister told newsmen at a press conference at Dak Tar Bhavan.

The Government's announcement sets at rest a controversy that has been raging for many months. The Government had before its proposals from many multi-national concerns offering technologies for electro-mechanical and electronic exchanges, including one from L M Ericsson of Sweden.

Mr Stephen said that though the Swedish system was better both in quality and performance, the Government had decided "to go in for our own child." The cross-bar system, which had been modified by ITI to suit local conditions, however was not bad and had been functioning normally in a Delhi exchange. Mr Stephen said.

Mr Stephen strongly defended both the decisions to manufacture cross-bar exchanges as also the collaboration with the Belgium firm. He said the equipment was new and there was no

question of the foreign company dumping any obsolete machinery. Cross-bar equipment, he said, had not become outdated as was being reported, and in fact was still in wide use the world over and would continue to be so for many more years.

The electronic system which had been introduced in India also, was still in a stage of development and had not yet stabilised, he added.

The country, he said, would go electronic in telephones, but that would take more time. In the meanwhile to meet the ever-growing demand for telephones, electro-mechanical equipment was required.

UNI adds:

Asked why Bell Company's collaboration had been sought, Mr Stephen said ITI was not in a position to undertake the manufacture of Indian cross-bar equipment on its own immediately. The machinery required for manufacturing the equipment would have to come from outside. The country could not afford to wait till ITI developed capability to manufacture the equipment through its own efforts. The collaboration was, therefore, limited.

Simultaneously, Mr Stephen said, the Government was endeavouring to create manufacturing capacities for electronic equipment. Two factories each to produce five lakh lines annually would be set up. Their locations had not yet been decided. The ITI's Palghat unit would also produce electronic equipment.

CSO: 5500

DELHI CONFERENCE VIEWS EXPANSION OF 'OANA'

BK171640 Hong Kong AFP in English 1457 GMT 17 Dec 80

[Text] New Delhi, 13 Dec (AFP)--Heads of Asian news agencies meeting here in a UNESCO-sponsored conference on communications have agreed in principle to launch a news exchange network under the auspices of the Organisation of Asian News Agencies (OANA), conference sources disclosed today.

The decision would be forwarded to the UNESCO with the suggestion that the exchange project be given top priority for the international programme for development of communication.

The PTI News Agency, which is expected to be the South Asian anchor for the project, said the name OANA would be amended to read the Organisation of Asia-Pacific News Agencies.

The statutes and working procedure of the new exchange network are expected to be finalised when OANA, formed 20 years ago with UNESCO support, holds its general conference in Kuala Lumpur next year, according to the PTI.

Under the recommendation, conference sources said, each agency, which is assigned the task of receiving and transmitting news, would handle the reception of news from selected agencies and transmit them to another group.

The New Delhi meeting, which began on Monday, will continue its sittings till Friday. Among the participants are India, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, North Korea, South Korea, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Vietnam, Sri Lanka and the Soviet Union.

OANA is at present headed by Indonesia's ANTARA NEWS AGENCY, while PTI is its vice-president.

The New Delhi meeting is part of the second UNESCO-sponsored consultation as a follow-up to the inter-governmental conference on communication policies in Asia and Oceania held in Kuala Lumpur in February 1979.

Meanwhile, the PTI yesterday took the first step in computerisation of its news operations with a demonstration organised here on electronic editing by computer and channeling the news through an automatic switching system.

CSO: 5500

INDIA

BRIEFS

INTERNATIONAL TELEX SERVICE--The Director General of the Overseas Communications Service has notified that direct international telex service with subscriber dialling facility is now available with the German Democratic Republic, UNI reports quoting an official release. With this fully automatic subscriber dialled international telex service is now available to 43 countries. [as published] [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 20 Nov 80 p 5]

TV BROADCAST EXPANSION--Minister for Information and Broadcasting Vasant Sathe has said the proposed second television channel in Bombay, Delhi and Calcutta can be in color and fully commercialized to earn revenues which could be used to expand the television network and modernize its equipment. [BK280512 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 Nov 80 BK]

C90: 5500

BRIEFS

COMMUNICATIONS INSTITUTE CONGRESS ENDS--Tianjin, 19 Dec (XINHUA)--The China Institute of Communications, set up two years ago to study advanced telecommunications and sponsor academic exchanges, now has 23 branches with 6,485 members throughout China, with six more branches to be set up soon. This was announced by Wang Zigang, minister of posts and telecommunications, at the First National Congress of the institute which concluded here today. Attending the congress were 290 delegates from the fields of posts and telecommunications, national defense, communications and education. Wang Zigang was elected president of the institute. The China Institute of Communications was established in May 1978. It was formerly called the China Posts and Telecommunications Society, and changed its name in June this year. It publishes the magazines TELECOMMUNICATIONS JOURNAL and MODERN TELECOMMUNICATIONS. [Text] [OW191242 Beijing XINHUA in English 1224 GMT 19 Dec 80]

CSO: 5500

SOUTH KOREA

NEWS AGENCY HOLDS INAUGURAL MEETING

SK190922 Seoul HAPTONG in English 0811 GMT 19 Dec 80

[Text] Seoul, 19 Dec (HAPTONG)--A new, incorporated news agency, based on the two outgoing national news agencies--HAPTONG and ORIENT PRESS (OP)--was formed in an inaugural meeting of stockholders here today.

Kim Song-chin, OP president and chairman of the organizing committee for the new organization, was elected president of the YONHAP (UNITED) NEWS AGENCY in a subsequent meeting of directors.

Hong Il-hae, HAPTONG's managing director, was chosen as the managing director. The three executive directorships went to Yu Sung-pum and Yim Chul-kyu, both executive directors of HAPTONG and OP, respectively, and Yi Chong-sik, an ex-Yujonghoe member.

Chong Yuk-su, a onetime economic writer, was picked as the auditor.

Yi Won-hong, president of the state-run Korea Broadcasting System (KBS) and chairman of the Korea Broadcasters Associations, and Mun Tae-kap, president of the state-controlled SEOUL SIMUN and president of the Korea Newspapers Association, were also elected to sit on the board.

Publication under the name of YONHAP will be made beginning January 5. During the the interval extending to December 31, HAPTONG and OP will continue to serve their clients with their own credits.

Members of the Korea Newspapers Association and the Korea Broadcasters Association, which comprise all major newspapers and radio and television networks in the country, hold a controlling interest of 51 per cent share of the new news agency.

The rest, 49 per cent of the equities, will be evenly contributed by the outgoing firms.

CSO: 5500

BRIEFS

USSR, ROMANIA PROTOCOL--A working protocol for 1981-82 was signed in Moscow today between Gostelradio and Romanian Radio-Television on cooperation in the sphere of television and radio broadcasting. A further development of exchanges of television and radio material on life in the two countries is foreseen. Particular attention is devoted to highlighting the 26th CPSU Congress. The protocol was signed by Lapin, Gostelradio, and General Director of Romanian Radio and Television Ionescu. [Text] [LD121222 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 12 Dec 80]

CSO: 5500

HUNGARY

BRIEFS

PRESS AGENCY AGREEMENT--Vienna, 17 Dec--General directors Dr Erno Lakatos of the HUNGARIAN NEWS AGENCY and Andreas Berghold of Austria PRESSE AGENTUR signed the co-operation agreement of the two agencies in Vienna on Wednesday. On the strength of the stipulations of the new agreement, the relations of the two news agencies that have seen favourable development so far, will further develop in the editing, technical and organizational areas. [Text] [LD200620 Budapest MTI in English 1753 GMT 17 Dec 80]

CSO: 5500

TELECOMMUNICATIONS RESEARCH IN OPTIC FIBERS ADVANCES

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 23 Nov 80 p 34

[Text] "The fiber of the century," this phrase placed above a microphotograph in the mural of the Optic Fibers Department of the Research and Development Center of TELEBRAS [Brazilian Telecommunications, Inc] in Campinas is an indicator of the hope researchers of the sector place on optic fibers, glass threads as fine as a hair, which promise a real technological revolution during this century, primarily in the telecommunications sector.

An optic fiber is a flexible glass thread with a sheath which may be of either glass or polymer (a type of plastic), made in such a way that it allows a ray of light passing internally through it to be reflected in the interface between the thread and the sheath, propagating itself continuously. Although Brazil began research later than other countries developed in the field of optic fibers, it has already managed to develop advanced technology in the sector, in the field of telecommunications and telemetry through the TELEBRAS Research Center.

In 1975, TELEBRAS initiated an optic fiber research project together with the Campinas State University Physics Institute, developing the technology for the manufacture of that fiber in the country. The initial phase of the project, according to program coordinator Professor Jose Mauro Leal Costa, was very critical because of the lack of a technological infrastructure in the country, which caused two years to be spent in training the personnel and installing the equipment needed for the work. "The technical personnel, for example, did not even know how to turn the laser on and off," commented Leal Costa. In 1978, however, the program was subdivided, the University of Campinas being given the responsibility for the academic part of the project and for the technology development center, an operational structure which remains today.

The principal motivation for the entire world to develop optic fibers lies in the field of telecommunications. Professor Leal Costa explains why: "A fiber today performs the same function as nearly 800 pairs of copper wires--the conventional system--in a telecommunications cable. A cable with 1,000 pairs of copper wires can be replaced by a cable with six optic fibers, which would also have a thickness one-fourth as great as the former. Moreover, transmission by optic fibers is completely immune to electromagnetic interference, an inherent property since it is made of glass."

From the strategic point of view, it is very important for Brazil to develop its own technology in that area since the raw material used in the manufacturing of optic fibers is silica which comes from quartz, of which Brazil has the best quality and largest reserves in the world. Copper, on the other hand, is already being listed among the rare metals because of its scarcity in the world, a factor which is giving it a high price.

Despite the interest awakened in the world for the use of optic fibers in telecommunications, it is also outside of that field that its applications are becoming greater and greater. A typical example is telemetry in electric powerplants. According to Jose Mauro Leal Costa, the property of immunity of optic fibers to electromagnetic interference, which is very great in distributing substations for example, is being used.

For the purpose of demonstrating that property, TELEBRAS installed a system of telemetry in the substation of Carioba of the Sao Paulo Power and Light Company CPFL, in the municipality of Americana in the region of Campinas. The work was performed jointly with the ELETROBRAS [Brazilian Electric Power Companies, Inc] Research Center [CEPEL]. "That system," said Leal Costa, "sends information via optic fibers on the status of operations of one of the high-voltage circuit breakers of that substation. Positive results obtained from that application led the CPFL to become interested in the installation of similar new systems."

TELEBRAS also developed an optic fiber to be used in the Itaipu hydroelectric powerplant for the telecontrol operation of rectifiers, devices which will convert the 50-cycle alternating current generated in Paraguay to direct current, which will be subsequently transmitted to Sao Paulo and reconverted to 60 cycles.

Said Leal Costa: "That application not only uses the property of immunity to magnetic interference but also the property of resistance to dielectric breakdown. That phenomenon takes place when a conventional metallic conductor is used in those installations and due to the great difference in potential between the ends of the conductor, a discharge very similar to a lightning bolt is propagated along it. Optical fibers are not subject to that phenomenon.

First Use at Itaipu

The advanced technology component was already tested in laboratories abroad and its know-how was acquired by a national company which will manufacture the fibers. However, the Brazilian Government has not yet decided whether to use the fibers developed by TELEBRAS in the Itaipu powerplant or whether to use Swedish technology, according to Professor Leal Costa.

Although it was known that TELEBRAS worked hard in research for the optic fiber to be used in Itaipu, the project coordinator said that the main concern is to manufacture the product for telecommunications. Leal Costa said: "In that sector we have been working for nearly 6 months in the laboratory, already on the scale of a pilot plant, in the development of a fiber today being used in commercial telecommunications installations. The next 6 months is the period we believe necessary for the solution of details of the technological process. This will allow us to achieve a product equal to the best being sold in the world today."

By the end of next year TELEBRAS intends to develop the prototype of a telephone system using optic fibers, but the prospect for its transfer to industry is that of around the middle of 1982. The first step by TELEBRAS will be the replacement of conventional telephone systems with optic fiber systems.

Although they may not be practical for Brazil in the short and medium term, "extraordinary things" are already known, according to Leal Costa, which could be done with optic fibers and which are going to alter the psychological behavior of people. The optic fiber, because of the large quantity of information it can carry from one point to another, is going to provide the user access to a range of information much greater than that available today. For example, a videophone system, today impractical because it requires a large number of channels, which makes it expensive, will be commercially practical with optic fibers. Peripheral access to computers will be available to users in their homes also. They can offer many types of information ranging from arrival and departure schedules of aircraft at airports to the up-to-date prices at the city supermarkets.

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C80: 5500

DOMESTIC COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE CONSIDERED NECESSARY

Operation Scheduled For 1985

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 25 Nov 80 p 16

[Text] Contracts for the Brazilian domestic satellite will be signed in 1981 and it will go into operation within 4 years if Minister of Planning Delfim Netto approves the suggestion in that respect forwarded by EMBRATEL [Brazilian Telecommunications Company] with the endorsement of TELEBRAS [Brazilian Telecommunications, Inc]. The space portion of the system, estimated at \$70 million, will be acquired abroad, according to EMBRATEL president Helvecio Gilson, because it makes no sense to "activate a national industry for the construction of 'only one satellite.'"

The financial study of the program was already accomplished by EMBRATEL and included in its proposed 1981 budget, which stipulates expenditures on the order of 12 billion cruzeiros. Helvecio Gilson revealed that contracting is possible through financing of 10 or 12 years, with no payments for 3 years and a rate of interest "which up to a short time ago was 7.5 percent per year."

The purchase of a satellite by Brazil becomes practically mandatory as of next year when the country will have completed 18 earth stations--one of them in Fernando de Noronha--needing the services of the space system to attend to the demand. Although there may be other options, the advantages of the satellite are many, according to technicians, beginning with the cost for leasing channels which is now around \$3 million per year.

Another aspect which makes a quick decision necessary is the fact that Brazil has the right to only one point in the communications satellite orbit. The ideal point for the country--over the Amazon Region--is being claimed by Intelsat, who wants to install a satellite in it for the domestic purposes of its subscribers.

Domestic Satellite Restudied

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 26 Nov 80 p 18

[Text] Secretary of Planning of the Ministry of Communications Artur Alves Peixoto said yesterday at the seminar on new means of communication in EMBRATEL that the government is restudying the launching of a domestic communications satellite because the lease paid now to Intelsat is already the equivalent of the cost of construction of a new and exclusively Brazilian satellite.

Alves Peixoto explained that Brazil is going to spend nearly \$100 million by 1990 as rental for some channels of the reserve Intelsat satellite. For that much money Brazil could build a satellite to attend exclusively to its own needs and put an end to its dependence on Intelsat.

"It is important to remember that Brazil leases the reserve Intelsat satellite. In the case of a malfunction of the primary satellite, the users of that satellite will be transferred to the reserve and we will be left with nothing. That means there is no security."

Alves Peixoto explained that the decision on the construction of that new satellite has to be made by the government next year. The restudy is being made because there is a need to update prices. The last call for bids made by the government in 1976 showed the Hughes Company of the United States to be the winner with a bid of \$70 million, which included the costs of launching by NASA of the United States plus insurance.

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GRENADA

BRIEFS

RADIO COOPERATION WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA--Agreements for mutual cooperation and assistance between Czechoslovakia Radio and Radio Free Grenada were signed last Friday the 12th in Havana, Cuba. Signing in behalf of Radio Free Grenada was this country's ambassador to Cuba, Brother Richard Jacobs. The Czechoslovak ambassador to Cuba signed in behalf of his government. Included in the protocol (?were) agreements for the exchange of radio programs, training of personnel and [words indistinct] technical assistance. [Text] [FL152349 St George's Domestic Service in English 2330 GMT 15 Dec 80]

CSO: 5500

MASS COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM SAID UNDERWAY IN KANO STATE

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 15 Nov 80 p 7

[Text]

PLANS for the development of a state-wide mass communications systems are now under way in Kano State.

Already, agreements for the acquisition of transmitters, radio link systems, transformers, training facilities and radiowave antennae, have been reached between the state's Ministry of Home Affairs and Information and a renowned firm in North America, which is expected to participate in supply contracts which is now imminent.

These facts were disclosed by the state's Commissioner for Home Affairs and Information, Alhaji Ahmed Mohammed Gumel in an interview recently.

He said that about four million Naira would be spent on the exercise for the purchase of equipment and facilities needed.

He further said that supply agreements were made between the state government and the Harris Farison Telecommunications Group of North America. The company, he went on, was the winner of the 1974 Academic Award for the development of microwave equipment.

The commissioner who has just

returned from a three-week working tour of Europe and North America, also disclosed that a total of 14 powerful broadcasting station transmitters would be installed throughout the state under the projected mass communications programme.

According to the commissioner, these high frequency transmitters would cost the Kano State Government the sum of 1.3 million Naira, adding that "they would enable crucial mass communication programmes to reach every citizen in the state". In addition, the commissioner said, the Telefunken Corporation of Europe would instal frequency modulation (FM) units with the new transmitters.

He however, explained that his official working tour had enabled him to make useful contacts for the establishment of a technical training school for broadcasters, which according to him, would be the first of its kind in West Africa.

The Harris-Farison Group which the commissioner said would also be involved in the establishment of the proposed technical school is currently training some Nigerian broadcasters in North America.

BRIEFS

NEW RADIO STATION--An all-day radio station to replace Radio Jacaranda will go on the air at the beginning of next year. The new station, to be called Radio Three, will be similar to Radio Jacaranda in music selection and presentation. "This has been under consideration for some time," a ZBC spokesman said. "However, no decisions have yet been taken as to wavebands and frequencies. Radio One, which uses Radio Jacaranda frequencies during the day, will continue as an all-day station." [Text] [Salisbury THE HERALD in English 2 Dec 80 p 3]

CSO: 5500

REJECTION BY SWEDEN ASSURES DEMISE OF NORDSAT PROJECT

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 26 Oct 80 p 2

[Article by T. H.]

[Text] The Nordsat project must now be considered dead. The death certificate will probably be issued on 4 November 1980 at 10 o'clock at the Nordic Cultural Secretariat in Copenhagen where Nordic Collaboration Ministers' deputies are meeting. Officially, this certificate will then be signed by the Nordic Collaboration Ministers on 10 November, and the funeral will take place at the Nordic Council's session in Copenhagen in March of 1981. It will not happen quietly, but behind all the words it will be clear that one of the largest imagined Nordic collaboration projects never will become a reality. In the northern countries we will never see each other's TV or hear each other's radio via a Nordic satellite.

Politically, the reason is simple: The Swedes are saying no. For many years, Finland has had to listen to criticism for resisting an economic union. The defense collaboration also did not come about, among other reasons because Denmark and Norway preferred NATO. During the seventies, Denmark has had to suffer criticism due to our EC membership. The great imagined Norwegian/Swedish industrial collaboration with Volvo as the starting point was overturned by Swedish Volvo stockholders, heavily supported by Marcus Wallenberg. The Nordsat idea is dropped because the conservative Swedish government now joins the Swedish Social Democrats' rejection. Norway is still just as positively disposed to the idea while Finland is following the Swedish stand. Denmark, especially after Niels Matthiasen's death, is half-hearted and is following the common voice.

The Cultural Secretariat has made the politicians' choice easy through the meeting preliminary which it has drawn up. It has drawn up three alternatives for the Minister Council proposal. All three proposals are filled with beautiful words about the necessity for increased media collaboration both for cultural reasons and in reference to the fact that in a matter of five years maximum, we will have to accept European satellites.

In the two alternatives, a Nordic satellite is mentioned positively. However, the politicians want to choose alternative three, and this is where the death sentence lies, neatly wrapped: "The minister council ascertains that, regardless of the possibilities the project can offer, an expanded Nordic radio- and TV collaboration with the use of directly transmitting satellites, does not seem desirable, nor possible to accomplish from a cultural-political point of view and as a result of the project's cost.

The cultural secretariat suggests that the industry ministers now be included in the plans for media collaboration because it fears that when not given the stimulant which Nordcat would have provided, European competition will cost Nordic electronic industry both jobs and shares in the market. In money, we would be talking about approximately one billion Danish kroner.

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LEADING POSITION IN TELE-LINKS RETAINED

Nicosia CYPRUS MAIL in English 4 Dec 80 pp 1, 4

(Text)

CYPRUS RETAINS ITS LEADING POSITION AMONG THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD IN INTERNATIONAL SUBSCRIBER DIALLING (ISD) HOLDING FOURTH PLACE AFTER BRITAIN, AUSTRALIA AND THE UNITED STATES. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CYPRUS TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY (CYTA), MR N. ROUSSOS, SAID YESTERDAY.

The CYTA Chairman was speaking at a press conference at which he presented the Authority's annual report for 1979 showing a net surplus of £2.6 million as against £2.2 million in 1978 (and a deficit of £250,000 in the invasion year of 1974).

The operating revenue for the year was £12 million as against £9.6 million in 1978 (an increase of 26 per cent).

Mr Roussos said telecommunication rates in Cyprus were generally lower than in other countries.

Despite the expansion work carried out in the year and similar work carried out in previous years, the Authority, far from increasing its rates, has reduced them in most cases.

The reduction started with the instant telephone dialling in 1975 and the last increase was in 1972. At present no new increase of telephone charges is anticipated, he said.

Giving an example of reductions Mr Roussos said that telephone rates have been reduced by up to 30% with an average reduction of 15% and the minimum chargeable time is reduced from 180 seconds (three minutes) to 14 seconds.

Reduced charges

Telex service charges have reduced by 25 per cent on average - and the minimum chargeable time is down to 60 seconds from original three minutes.

Rentals for PABX and switchboards in hotels have been reduced by 46 per cent as from 1978.

As against its £2.6 m. surplus for 1979 the Authority had outstanding medium-term and long-term debts amounting to £3.8 million in 1980 which in 1984/85 will go up to £5.5 million plus those signed in 1980 amounting to £15.7 million to be repaid in 1985/86.

These commitments, Mr Roussos said, cover scheduled projects of development, maintenance, improvements and further bolstering of services provided to the public and the country.

The surplus besides being of help in facing these commitments, is also helpful in consolidating even more the credibility of the Authority in the eyes of its suppliers, who have been giving the Authority credit facilities without any guarantee. The Authority's balance sheets serve as a guarantee, Mr Roussos stated.

Satellite

The CYTA Chairman mentioned among the latest achievements Satellite Earth Station (planned to come into operation in Christmas 1979 but owing to impediments abroad finally launched in May 1980) and said preparations are being made for the invitation of tenders during the current year for Automatic Dial Mobile Telephone Equipment (for vehicles), a Facsimile Subscribers Apparatus and an Instrument Landing Service (ILS) at Larnaca Airport.

Also 40 data modem units were ordered for the introduction and operation of a new DATED service (for intercommunication for big corporations).

Answering questions, Mr Roussos said that the Satellite Earth Station started with 26 channels and one colour TV channel but now has 30 channels in addition to the TV channel.

The requests of foreign correspondents are already being met for Satellite Earth facilities to relay TV news stories to Europe and the USA while other services for film editing and availability of executive aircraft pertain to other authorities, like the CMC and Cyprus Airways.

Mr Roussos said that 30 telephones and four telexes are operated in the north with the subscribers paying their subscriptions and fees to the Authority.

Mr Roussos denied emphatically that telephone conversations are being tapped. This is strictly prohibited by the Authority, he said.

The Chairman of the Authority mentioned, among other things that at the end of the year there were 70,000 Direct Exchange Lines (DEL), three more countries (Oman, Qatar and Oman) became available on the International Subscribers Dialing System bringing the total to 65 and Cyprus subscribers can communicate with 12 countries

through semi-automatic telephony (the three latest additions being Cairo, Egypt and the Yemen Republic).

During the first ten months of the current year 4,831 new subscribers were linked with telephone exchanges all over Cyprus.

The Authority's wish is to meet applications in 24 hours.

If possible but, he said, it should not be forgotten that laws and regulations have to be complied with and he sought the understanding of the public.

To succeed in its work, the Authority must not only make efforts itself, but be assisted by those about to be served by it, he said.

RESEARCHERS MASS QUITTING THREATENS TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 17 Nov 80 p 29

[Article by Knut Lovstuhagen: "Telecommunications Drained of Researchers"]

[Text] The leaders of the Telecommunications Research Institute are alarmed over the lack of personnel in which the Institute finds itself. "If before long we are unable to offer competitive salaries we shall be in a catastrophic position as concerns the work of new and cost-saving technology in our telecommunications," says Research Director Peter Hakonsen to AFTENPOSTEN. "In the course of a relatively short period of time we have lost one half of our research leaders and one research chief to private enterprise. We are heavily drained of qualified personnel."

The Telecommunications Research Institute plays a central role in planning the telecommunications network in this country. The division can simply be described as the telecommunications architect. It finds solutions for the use and operation of existing installations, so that the great sums invested in them can be exploited in the best way, and is to find solutions for introduction of new telecommunications services.

"Our technicians are much in demand in private enterprise, which offer salaries far above what we can offer. We lose people in key position almost as soon as we have them trained and taught, with the result that as far as competence is concerned we are in a poor position at a time when Telecommunications are faced with challenges as never before. The new technology to be introduced in telecommunications includes complicated systems, and we must place ever stricter educational demands upon our personnel. But as salaries are today, we are able to keep our people for only a few years before they are bought up by private enterprise," says Hakonsen.

The "brain drain" affects not only the Telecommunications Research Institute, but the EDB [data processing] and the technical section as well in the department. One generally held opinion is that the only thing that can solve the problem is that of putting Telecommunications in a special position in the state pay system, like Statoil and the Oil Directorate, so that key personnel can be paid at a level that makes employment in this department as attractive as in private enterprise. But time passes without results in that direction, and in the meantime the flight of qualified personnel from Telecommunications continues.

About a year ago, Telecommunications presented an ambitious long-range plan for development of the Norwegian telecommunications network up until 1991. The main effort is to be based on computer technology. However, Research Chief Hakonsen fears that the plan is faced with failure unless something is done about the personnel situation, and in his opinion there are signs that Norway is losing terrain in the telecommunications area in relation to other countries.

"We have projects ready, but cannot get them started because of the lack of personnel," he says. "We have managed to get some projects started, but at a pace which is completely inadequate. This applies to the whole spectrum of new technology. In my personal opinion, our long range plan is in danger."

State Personnel Director Nils Mugaas says to AFTENPOSTEN that Telecommunications, in connection with the adjustment and normalization negotiations under way with the state employees organizations, can use some funds to cover the positions telecommunications wishes.

"In the salary scale it was decided to set aside .8 percent for adjustments and normalizations. Some of these means have been used for temporary positions and some have been distributed among the various departments, and the large traffic departments have received their own amounts for disposition. For this money they can adjust positions up to and including salary step 25, and adjust chiefs' salaries. The institutions are free to distribute the money as they wish within the given framework," says Mugaas.

Per Wilhelmsen, chairman of the Telecommunications group of the Society of Norwegian Civil Engineers, says to AFTENPOSTEN that the adjustment and normalization settlement to which Personnel Director Mugaas referred allows no salary changes necessary for holding on to key personnel. "The funds available are much too scant in view of the fact that the salary difference between Telecommunications and private enterprise amounts to between 30,000 and 40,000 kroner," he says.

Wilhelmsen points out that there is pass-through of civil engineers in the department, and that it is a one-way street.

"If we could get people who have worked for some time in private industry to come to us with their experience, we would have no objection to such exchanges of personnel. But as the situation is today no such exchange takes place. Another problem is that our suppliers need qualified counterparts in Telecommunications for the purpose of obtaining corrections and help in development of equipment from the department experienced in practical application of the equipment. If we cannot give the suppliers such help, neither shall we be able to compete in the international market. The lack of qualified personnel in Telecommunications is therefore a headache for Norwegian telecommunications industry," says Wilhelmsen.

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REJECTION OF NORDSAT BY SDP PROBABLY DOOMS PROJECT

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 9 Nov 80 p 3

[Article by Agneta Lagercrantz: "Talk For 26 Years--Then No"]

[Text] As the Social Democrats decided this week to say no to the satellite for economic reasons, the opposed in the Swedish Riksdag are in the majority.

These movements have taken place within the committees of the Nordic Council and thereby initiated a debate that has gathered momentum during the past 3 years.

Already in 1954 there was a proposal by the Nordic Council that the member countries should establish a common television company. In 1958 the so-called Nordvision began and 4 years later the first committee about Nordic television cooperation was established. Only in the beginning of the 70's did the Nordic Council present a final report that was under consideration and advised the member countries to build up the television network, however, with conventional technique.

"Distinguished Report"

The Swedish Space Agency pointed out in its response that technique was so advanced that it would be possible to directly broadcast television programs via satellite both within technical and economical premises. The Nordsat committee was appointed in 1975 and presented its report in June 1977. The opposition against a Nordic television satellite gathered momentum.

The Nordic Council's representative group presented its big report in 1979, made with the cultural secretariat in Copenhagen, to be sent out for consideration. According to Per-Olaf Sundman, former chairman of the Nordic Council's cultural committee and now a member of the videogram committee, this report is the most distinguished report ever to be made about ether media in the world.

Criticism

The Left Party Communists in Sweden have always been negative towards Nordsat. The Liberal Party, with Minister of Education Jan-Erik Wikstrom in the forefront, and the Conservatives have had a positive attitude, while the Center Party, as late as at the congress in June this year, decided to say no. Nils G. Asling made a reservation. When the Social Democrats now also say no, it is not in direct keeping with the Nordic party brothers.

Both the Social Democrats in Denmark and the Labor Party in Norway are clearly positive towards the Nordic television satellite. With the exception of the People's Alliance in Iceland, in principle, all Nordic left-wing parties have been strongly negative.

In general, it is the Norwegians and the Icelanders who have promoted Nordsat most heatedly, while the Finns and the Danes have expressed a somewhat cooler approach. It is Sweden that has caused the neighboring countries to worry that satellite television will never come about.

In Sweden it is mostly workers in the cultural field, journalists and radio personnel that have been critical--but evaluation bodies, such as LO, TCO, Save the Children, the Immigration Department and the State Cultural Council that have opposed the proposal. The arguments are primarily cultural political: more television channels do not produce better programs, rather the risk of passivism as the television hours are increased. A great number of entertainment programs can cause the viewers to avoid cultural programs and discussions.

Advocates

The arguments in favor of Nordsat have been that contacts and culture exchange between the Nordic countries will be built up. The television viewers get greater selection opportunities. Nordsat means increased job opportunities and inevitable, inexpensive and fantastic technique. The advocates are primarily represented by, for example, the Space Agency, SAF, the Federation of Industries, the State Federation of Radio Dealers, radio suppliers and the Swedish Language Committee.

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CSO: 5500

INDUSTRY MINISTER ASLING PROPOSES NEW NORDSAT PROJECT

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 9 Nov 80 p 3

[Article by Richard Plate: "After No To Nordsat, Asling Has A New Satellite Proposal"]

[Text] Despite the opposition to Nordsat, Minister of Industry Nils G. Asling, has not given up hope about a Nordic TV-satellite. On Monday, the administration will make an initiative regarding a new form of cooperation which does not deal with culture.

This will take place when Minister of Education Jan-Erik Wikstrom and Minister of Communication Ulf Adelsohn participate in the ministers' meeting in Copenhagen.

From Sweden they will bring with them Asling's proposal regarding a TV-communication satellite called Tele-X.

It is, of course, said that I, along the the Conservatives and the Liberals, am being overruled in the administration, says the minister of industry to SVENSKA DAGBLADET. I have, however, bowed to the fact that the Nordsat-project is not ripe for execution, actually because of financial reasons. When the ministers of culture and communications meet in Copenhagen on Monday, the shelving of the Nordsat-project in the foreseeable future will be on the agenda.

--My actions regarding this issue have mainly been dictated by considerations of the industrial policy. As minister of industry, I am responsible for the Swedish Space Agency and the State Delegation for Space Cooperation. It is the latter that administers the appropriations to the Swedish activities within that branch. Namely, I cannot sit idly by and watch when technical and industrial competence within the telecommunication industry is wasted without any concern to save it and develop it.

--During my recent foreign trips, I have repeatedly been forced to act as a PR-man for this operation. It would not be good at all for the advanced Swedish industry if, for example, LME began to lose the pace and therewith the market. When I now concentrate on another form of Nordic cooperation, it is not an attempt at all to admit Nordsat through the backdoor without an initiative of great interest for Nordic industry.

Asling does not conceal his irritation over some of the objections against Nordsat. The misgivings the radical left cultural people have about commercialization of the

culture dictum, would weigh lightly against the possibilities of creating a balance against the continental offerings that will be reaching us in 1984. In Asling's new cooperative initiative the culture is, however, discarded. He is careful to point that out. Now, it is industry that matters.

Cooperation

I would like to establish a Nordic cooperation about Tele-X-satellite, says Asling. The aim is to create possibilities to, in a practical way, investigate the technical basis for a national and regional telesatellite system within different areas. Through that, Tele-X will prepare consumers, suppliers and operators for a future satellite system.

The minister of industry points out that during the research that up to now has been done for Tele-X, it has been the Norwegians who have shown themselves to be especially alert, just as in the Nordsat case. The National Norwegian Telecommunication Administration has, among others, expressed active interest in the experiment of Tele-X. All the more so if through direct cooperation with the Swedish Telecommunication Administration it will be possible to find solutions that give the best possible cooperative telecommunications possibilities with the operational system that will be effective in Europe from the middle of the 80's. The Norwegians have stated that they prefer such a cooperation to participation in the space experiment with West Germany.

Norwegian TV-2

There is another aspect of use for the Tele-X that is of high interest to the Norwegians. That would be able to solve their problems with another TV-channel. The experiment with direct TV aims towards transferring sound and picture, in a practical way, along with direct distribution from two or three TV-channels, to home viewers in the North.

Besides, the Tele-X experiment will mainly be goal directed. It will, among other things, deal with data transfer in the form of "electronic mail," establishing wireless telephone connections and computer communications. Tele-X would also remove the difficulties of contacting trucks, long-distance busses and trains traveling in Europe and the Near East. This portion of the program is called "Trucksat."

Basic Research

An important element of a basic research character also lies within the frame for Tele-X. The wave distribution experiment will chart the distribution conditions in the frequencies that will be used by the telesatellite. The result of these measurements will be the basis for formation and dimensions of the future Swedish and Nordic TV-satellite system.

This is the arrangement that Asling wants to "sell" to our Nordic enighbors, and it seems that he already has received clear signals from Norway. The Swedish minister of industry is not interested in waiting any longer. One can speculate that he did get the administration behind him to approve an appropriation in the amount of tens of millions--when it now did not accept Asling's concepts about Nordsat.

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CSO: 5500

SWEDEN

PAPER APPROVES TELECOMMUNICATIONS AGENCY PLAN

Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 9 Nov 80 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text] We encourage the Swedish government to approve Nordsat. This is the message of an appeal that was signed by a number of immigration organizations in Sweden. It would be of great importance for immigrants from Denmark, Finland and Norway to get the opportunity to see their own countries' television programs here in Sweden. There are about 300,000 Finns in Sweden and a great number of Danes and Norwegians.

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